

**VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Minutes of February 27, 2007**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Richard Sutor, Trustees Samantha Baraw, Libby Hambleton, Thomas McCarney, and Jim Wilson. Also present were Village Manager Nanci Allard, Bill Lyon (Superintendent of Public Works), Steven Reed (Northfield Village Highway Department), and Kathleen Lott (Northfield News & Transcript).

Chair Sutor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Scheduled)**

- a. **Presentation to Vermont Roads Scholar Steven Reed (Northfield Village Highway Department).** This is a program is a series of ten (10) courses and two (2) electives that you must complete (approximately 80 hours). Mr. Reed started this program in 2000. Congratulations were given by the Selectboard last night and the Trustees extended their congratulations as well. Thank you, Steven!

III. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. **Approval of Minutes**

1. **February 13, 2007 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Trustee Wilson, seconded by Trustee Hambleton, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

b. **Approval of Bills**

1. **Warrant #17-07.** Motion by Trustee McCarney, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to approve Warrant #17-07 in the amount of \$6,909.07. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

- c. **Board Information Requests Policy.** A draft policy was provided to the Trustees from the Chair. A justification was given of why the draft policy was drafted. Trustee McCarney did not agree. He felt this was targeted towards him and his requests, most recently his request for information that he needed for the Highway Committee. Trustee McCarney was upset that we're responsible for this and we cannot act in good faith unless we have the information needed to make a decision. Trustee McCarney stated that if he cannot get information needed for the Highway Committee, he would resign from the committee. Trustee Wilson concurred and was not in favor of the policy. His feeling was that we're elected officials and we're elected to do a job and we are unable to do that job without the proper information. The specific incident of the Highway Committee information was discussed.

- d. **Trustees Meeting Schedule.** There was a request from Manager Allard to the Trustees about holding monthly, rather than bi-monthly, regular meetings. Chair Sutor suggested that we consolidate the March meetings. Trustee Wilson asked what happened to the idea of consolidating the second meeting of the month with the Selectboard. This idea has not been discussed with the Selectboard. There will be no change at this time.

IV. **REPORTS**

a. **Village Manager**

1. A projection was handed out regarding the Utilities Department. There is an estimate that we're saving \$200 a month on postage for the utility bills.

b. **Committee Reports**

1. **Merger Committee.** The Merger Committee met last week and, in accordance with its recommendation, the Selectboard last night appointed two new members: Arlington Supplee and Greg Sanders (both Town residents residing outside of the Village). There is another meeting scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

**c. Miscellaneous**

1. **Water Project update.** At the last meeting, the Board authorized Manager Allard to start making preparations for Phase 3 of the Water Project. The application was mailed last week and work is being done for the USDA application. We're trying to schedule a vote for next fall. Detailed descriptions and a timetable will need to be put together this summer. The timetable should start with the anticipated bond date and work backwards. Trustee McCarney would like to see a presentation done by the Water Department to show the mains and provide visuals of why they need to be replaced.
2. **Efficiency Vermont Project update.** There was a meeting held on February 8, 2007. There was a variety of projects discussed. There will be a demonstration for homeowners on how they can look at their own homes and they can improve efficiency in their own homes. They're looking at a Saturday morning at 10 a.m. In addition, a new logo has been adopted. The next meeting will be March 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Brown Public Library's Community Room
3. **Safe Routes 2 School.** There will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the Northfield High School Library.
4. **Government Banking Resolution.** At the last meeting, there were questions as to why the resolution was for Chittenden Bank only and not for the other bank(s) that the Village uses. Manager Allard reported that approval for Merchants Bank did not require Board action.
5. **Blizzard Cleanup.** Many thanks to the Water, Sewer, and Highway Departments for their efforts on cleaning up after the blizzard. There were many employees that worked more than twenty-four (24) hours in a row – Kudos to all!
6. **Grandfathered Leave Time.** The Selectboard took no action on this last night. They had requested legal opinion and the opinion was that the grandfathered policy was fine so no action was needed.
7. **VPPSA Project 10 update.** The project is now fully subscribed.

**V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Unscheduled):** None.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT:** Without objection, the Board adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Samantha H. Baraw*

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next regular meeting.